Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 04252 271811Z

54
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 EB-11

STR-08 SAM-01 AEC-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /187 W
---------- 108503
P 261756Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3977
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PIRORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISGON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 4252

LONDON FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY
GENEVA FOR US CSCE DEL
VIENNA FOR US MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: CSCE: EC NINE PROPOSAL FOR GENERAL DECLARATION ON
MEDITERRANEAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 04252 271811Z

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

REFS: A. STATE 059882
B. ROME 4187

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO AMBASSADOR'S MARCH 26 DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTER MORO (REF B) ON THE GENERAL PROBLEMS OF CONSULTATIONS DURING WHICH THE TACTICS OF THE NINE REGARDING THEIR PROPOSAL FOR A GENERAL DECLARATION ON THE MEDITERRANEAN WAS CITED AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHY WE SEEK AN ORGANIC CONSULTATIVE MECHNAISM, EMBOFF TOOK UP ON MARCH 26 POINTS OUTLINED IN REF A WITH COUNSELOR CIVILETTI, ACTING HEAD OF MFA CSCE OFFICE.

2. CIVILETTI RESPONDED TO POINTS EMBOFF RAISED RE CONSULTATIONS BY NOTING THAT DECISION OF NINE ON THE DECLARATION WAS PRELIMINARY IN NATURE AND NO FINAL DECISION WAS TAKEN PRIOR TO MARCH 14 NATO CAUCUS. HE SAID HE FELT THIS SHOULD HAVE MET U.S. DESIRE NOT TO BE CONFRONTED WITH FINAL DECISIONS OF THE NINE BEFORE OUR VIEWS COULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. HE ADDED THAT MARCH 20 NATO CAUCUS PROVIDED U.S. FORUM FOR THIS PURPOSE. ON QUESTION OF SIMULTANEOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH ARABS, CIVILETTI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH THE ALGERIANS AND TURISIANS HAD OCCURRED. THESE CONVERSATONS DEALT, HE SAID, ONLY WITHTHE MODALITIES OF HOW THE NON-PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANEAN STATES MIGHT BE LINKED TO THE FINAL CSCE DOCUMENT. HE ASSERTED THAT THE ALGERIANS IN PARTICULAR HAD BEEN ACTIVE IN SEEKING DISCUSSIONS ON THIS POINT. THE DRAFT DECLARATION WAS NOT SHOWN TO EITHER THE ALGERIANS OR THE TUNISIANS, NOR WAS THERE ANY DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC LANGUAGE. CIVILETTI ALSO NOTED THAT AT A MARCH 18 GENERAL MEETING IN GENEVA BETWEEN MEDITERRANEAN PARTICIPANTS AND NON-PARTICIPATING ARAB STATES (PLUS AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND) THE SUBJECT OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION HAD NOT COME UP AT ALL. AS TO WHY THE ISRAELIS WERE NOT CONSULTED, HE SAID THAT PRECISELY THE SAME GUIDANCE THAT HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO ALGIERS AND TUNISIA WAS SENT TO TEL AVIV. WHEN PRESSED, CIVILETTI ADMITTED THAT THE GUIDANCE MAY HAVE BEEN INTERPRETED DIFFERENTLY IN TEL AVIV, I.E., USE ON AN "IF ASKED BASIS".

3. ON THE SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF THE DECLARATION, CIVILETTI DEFENDED THE ITALIAN INITIATIVE ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE GOI WAS CONCERNED THAT SOME OTHER PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANENA STATES, SUCH AS MALTA, YUGOSLAVIA, CYPRUS, OR SPAIN, WOULD SURFACE A CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 04252 271811Z

TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE PROPOSAL FOR LINKAGE WITH THE ARABS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR ITALY (AND THE NINE) TO OPPOSE. HE DESCRIBED THE CURRENT DRAFT AS VERY GENERAL, AND MODERATE IN TONE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED, THOUGH, THAT THE U.S. POSITION REGARDING THE DECLARATION'S FORMULATION ON SPECIAL ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN NON-PARTICIPANTS MAY BE VALID.

4. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S COMMENTS ON THE POTENTIAL DANGER

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

THAT THE LANGUAGE OF SUCH A DECLARATION COULD WELL BECOME A SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH ATHE ARABS, CIVILETTI SAID THE NINE ABSOLUTELY EXCLUDED THIS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE DECLARATION WAS INTENDED TO BE A UNILATERAL EXPRESSION OF THE CSCE PARTICIPANTS' RECOGNITION OF THE SPECIAL GEOGRAPHIC POSITION OF THE MEDITERRNAENA NON-PARTICIPANTS, AND THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER OF NEGOTIATING WITH THEM ON ITS LANGUAGE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE NINE RECOGNIZED THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND HER ALLIES WOULD OPPOSE IT, IMPLYING THAT THE ONUS FOR FAILURE WOULD FALL ON THEM.

5. CIVILETTI SAID HE WOULD REPORT OUR DEMARCH AND INDICATED THAT THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WOULD SEE FURTHER AND MORE COMPLETE EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT WITHIN THE NATO CAUCUS IN GENEVA.VOLPE

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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